

## CONVERSATION

Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District

1206 E. Second St., Suite 2 Ottawa, OH 45875 Phone: 419-523-5159

### *Soil and Water Supervisors*

- Jeff Duling  
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- Steve Liebrecht  
- Vice Chairman
- Dennis Maag  
- Fiscal Agent
- Mark Kahle  
- Secretary
- Dennis Vennekotter  
- Member

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- Sarah Rieman  
- Office Assistant
- Jeff Giesige  
- District Technician II
- Albert Maag  
- Technical Manager

- Roger Rieman  
- EWP, Part Time

### *NRCS Staff*

- Brian Thomas  
- District Conservationist
- Dominic Goshe  
- Resource Conservationist

## Lake Erie Water Bill Goes Into Effect

On April 2, 2015 Governor Kasich signed Senate Bill 1 which will go into **effect June 21, 2015**. Senate Bill 1 focus is on water quality and is intended to help control algae production in Lake Erie and its western basin. This law will regulate fertilizer and manure applications in our area. The bill does the following:

- The bill bans the application of fertilizer and manure: on snow covered or frozen soil; when the top two inches of the soil are saturated from precipitation; **in surface application of fertilizer when the weather forecast calls for a 50% or greater chance of precipitation of 1 inch or more in a 12-hour period (a half inch of rain in 24 hours for manure)** in the Lake Erie Basin Watershed.
- Fertilizer is defined as nitrogen and phosphorous.
- Exemptions to fertilizer application restrictions include: if injected into the ground; if incorporated within 24 hours; or if applied on a growing crop.
- Medium and small animal feeding operations may apply for an exemption of up to two years if they are unable to meet the new expectations but are working toward compliance. Because the new regulations will require some farms to add costly manure storage facilities, language in the bill was changed to include these exemptions.
- Requires the state legislature to review the legislation after three years.
- Farms applying manure from a Confined Animal Feeding Operation will be required to have a Livestock Manager Certification or be certified for nutrient application under SB 150. This applies to any farms applying manure from a CAFO statewide.
- The bill shifts administration and enforcement of the Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to the Ohio Department of Agriculture by July 1. Both ODA and ODNR will be authorized to investigate complaints with regard to possible violations of the prohibitions.
- Shifts the Healthy Lake Erie Fund mission to support conservation measures in the Western Basin as determined by the director of ODNR. The Fund will be used for assistance for soil testing, winter cover crops, edge of field testing, tributary monitoring and animal waste abatement, and for any additional efforts to reduce nutrient runoff.
- Additional regulations involving non-agricultural entities such as water treatment facilities and sewage sledge management.

To view the full bill and for more information visit: [www.legislature.ohio.gov](http://www.legislature.ohio.gov)

2015 TREE SEEDLING PICK-UP

Thursday, April 23rd

@ SWCD Office

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

# Show us what **Agriculture** means to **YOU!!**



## 2015 Photo Contest

- Photo must be taken within Putnam County.
  - Possible Ideas: Country Kids, Outdoor Landscape, Sunsets, Nature Scenes, Flowers, and Farm Animals.
- 3 Photos per person may be submitted. Must be a resident of Putnam County.
- All photos must be submitted electronically. (email, memory stick, or SD card)
- All photos, used or unused, become the property of Putnam SWCD. May be featured in social media, a calendar, and on our website.

## Cash Prizes Awarded:

1st Place - \$100

2nd Place - \$75

3rd Place - \$50

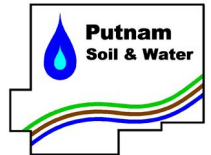
All Photos must be submitted by:  
**June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Judging will take place at the  
Putnam County Fair  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>

Photos can be sent to:

[sarah.gerten@putnamcountyohio.gov](mailto:sarah.gerten@putnamcountyohio.gov)

Any questions or for more  
information, please contact  
the office at 419-523-5159.



## **GREAT Lakes Restoration Initiative Nutrient Reduction Program**

The GLRI-NRP still has available funding for the South Turkeyfoot watershed. This program is to help combat the recent harmful algal blooms in the western basin of Lake Erie. This program aims at reducing the phosphorus loading in the Maumee River .

Best management practices that are available for funding include: Precision Fertilizer Placement & Cover Crop System, Soil Testing, Cover Crops, Controlled Drainage Structures, and Manure Storage & Roofing.

## Grant Opportunities

There may be potential funding this upcoming summer for engineering practices in Putnam County. Some eligible practices may include: Surface Drains, Blind Inlets, and Drainage Control Structures. We will have more information when details are released.



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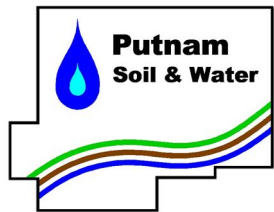
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Join Us On

**KID'S DAY** at the

# Putnam County Fair

**FREE**  
Conservation  
Activity!!

**TUESDAY, JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Make your very own  
**PLAYDOUGH**  
**SOIL!!**

All supplies will  
be provided.



Located North of the  
animal barns by the  
Putnam Soil & Water  
fair tent.

## Upcoming Events



- April 22  
Earth Day  
Area 1 Envirothon
- April 23  
Tree Pick-Up
- April 24  
Arbor Day
- April 26 - May 3  
Soil & Water Stewardship Week
- April 28  
Monthly Board Meeting 8:00 p.m.
- May 25  
Memorial Day - Office Closed
- May 26  
Monthly Board Meeting 8:00 p.m.
- June 15  
Photo Contest Deadline
- June 22 - 27  
Putnam County Fair
- June 23  
Kid's Day Conservation Craft Activity  
Monthly Board Meeting 8:00 p.m.

**Come See Us at the  
Putnam County Fair!!**

**FREE POPCORN!** June 22<sup>nd</sup> - June 27<sup>th</sup>

We will be in the agriculture tent,  
north of the animal barns. Come  
check us out and enter your name  
to win a FREE rain barrel!

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# Putnam County Tire Recycling Day

SAVE THE DATE

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**8:00 A.M. — 1:00 P.M.**

**Putnam County Fairgrounds**